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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KABUL 000376

SIPDIS

EO 12958 DECL: 02/16/2019  
TAGS PGOV, PREL, PTER, SNAR, AF, PK, IR  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT KARZAI PREVIEWS STRATEGIC REVIEW IDEAS  
FOR USD/P FLOURNOY

1. (C NF) President Karzai on February 15 told Undersecretary of Defense for Policy Flournoy that his government welcomed the opportunity to j

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FOCUS ON PAKISTAN  
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2. (C NF) The fight for stability in Afghanistan must be taken to the terrorist planners and their sanctuaries in Pakistan, Karzai said. He nc

3. (C NF) On cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan, Karzai said, "Zardari is of a different (positive) mindset." The Pakistani Presider

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RENEW COMMUNITY SUPPORT  
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3. (C NF) The President underscored his analysis that the support of communities was key to countering the insurgency. When I first returned t

4. (C NF) Community empowerment is not about the arming the tribes, Karzai noted. Media speculation about this approach is misleading. We need

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TALK TO AFHGAN TALIBAN  
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5. (C NF) Afghanistan and the US together should formally launch a process of peace-making with those Taliban who are not al Qaeda or part of

6. (C NF) If there really was a Taliban movement, Karzai said, I would be greatly worried by US reports that Iran is supporting the Taliban. E  
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connection to a family or community.

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FRIENDS DESPITE FRICTIONS  
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7. (C NF) On several topics, Karzai said, recent frictions in the bilateral relationship represent "annoyances" between "friends." "We have be

8. (C) Comment: Coming in the immediate aftermath of Special Representative Holbrooke's visit, this meeting reflected Karzai's effort to stick by his agreement to re-found the relationship. His calm, cons

9. (U) Undersecretary Flournoy cleared this cable. WOOD